

**City of San Diego
Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Board
October 16, 2008**

MINUTES

Meeting Held at:

Doyle Community Park
8175 Regents Road
San Diego, CA 92122

Mailing Address is:

City of San Diego
202 C Street, MS 5A
San Diego, CA 92101

Members Present

Ginny Barnes, Chair
Ken Baier, Hang Gliding/Torrey Hawks Hang Gliding Club
Ronald Brown, Torrey Pines Gulls-Radio-Controlled Soaring Society
Ken King, Council District 1 Representative
David Metzgar, Paragliding/San Diego Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association
Chris Schmidt, Sierra Club, San Diego Chapter
Michael Stepner, Park & Recreation Board Member
Brian Thompson, Torrey Pines Association
Douglas Williamson, University Community Planning Group

Members Absent

Mary Coakley, Park & Recreation Board's Community Parks 1 Area
Edward Slater, Associated Glider Clubs of Southern California

City of San Diego Staff

Michelle Abella-Shon, Project Manager
Deborah Sharpe, Project Officer II

Other Agencies

Milton Phegley, Director, Community Planning, UCSD

CALL TO ORDER

Ginny Barnes, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Advisory Board approved the September 18, 2008 Meeting Minutes with the following members abstaining: Ken Baier, Michael Stepner, Chris Schmidt.

COMMUNICATION

Bob Kuczewski and David Beardslee addressed the management component of the Gliderport facility in regards to concessionaire charges and safety rules.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Ginny Barnes welcomed everyone present. Douglas Williamson was introduced as the new Advisory Board member, representing University Community Planning Group.

Ginny introduced each Flying Community representative, as they each provided a 5-10 minute introduction/presentation on their Sport.

- Notification was made about future meeting locations to be held at the Forum Hall at UTC Mall for the following months: November and December 2008 and January, February, March, June, August, September, October, November, and December 2009. While April, May & July will be held at Doyle Community Park.

PROJECT MANAGER REPORT

- Michelle Abella-Shon provided updates on the Consultant Selection for the Torrey Pines City Park GDP.

BOARD MEMBER'S REPORT

INFORMATION ITEMS

101. History of Soaring at Torrey Pines Gliderport Presentation

- Presentation by Gary Fogel, Ph.D. was postponed to the November 20 meeting.

102. Introduction/presentation of each Sport

- David Metzgar presented the difference between paragliding and hang gliding activities, history that dates back in the 1970's, tandem flights, FAA instructor's exam, and voluntary instructor to teach people about the sport. Hang gliding is a traditional 2-wing, suspended by ridged-wing for foot launch, unpowered, off a slope or edge of flat ground. California was the birthplace of hang gliding and it is self-regulating. David brought up the management of the air space for all the various gliding activities where they all fly within the same space.
- Ronald Brown presented the non-motorized Radio-Controlled Soaring Society and the history that dates back in the 1960's. Two Soaring Clubs are responsible for qualifying flyers. Competition events are held where people from all over the world attend. These equipments are launched by hand, thrown into edge of steep slope for ideal airlift conditions. Landing is into the wind because it allows for lowest possible land speed. Membership is required with the national organization called Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), who determines safety rules & regulations and who can operate to fly. There are 400,000 members. Members are provided \$2.5 million insurance coverage for as long as they abide by the rules. In addition, members must be a member of their local club.
- Ken Baier presented the Paragliding activity that range in speeds between 20 – 60 MPH. It requires a minimum amount of airtime to attain certain level of skill. Paragliding requires intermediate rating. It looks like a parachute designed to fly with 'Delta' shape tubes. The international community considers the term hang gliding as a term for paragliding. Although, paragliders are not required to be a member of local clubs, they are required to be a member of the United States Hanggliding & Paragliding Association (USHPA) oversees the rating system. USHPA provided 3rd party liability insurance coverage on City property. Pilots need advanced rating in order to fly the Torrey Pines Gliderport site.
- Edward Slater was absent to present on the Associated Glider Clubs of Southern California.

ACTION ITEMS:

201. None

WORKSHOP ITEMS:

301. Discussion of Board Member Outreach

- Open discussions for the Advisory Board questionnaire brought up several questions of clarification from each group. Mike Stepner asked how much public input would be sought for the project? Deborah Sharpe said public input will be conducted by the consultants consistent with Council Policy 600-33. Chris Schmidt asked about the potential conflicts between the facility and air space use. Ginny welcomed everyone to notify each respective group and to invite the members. The questionnaire was meant to be a communication tool, a starting point. The question for next month's meeting is: Should the Board recommend that the GDP include the Glider Activities for Torrey Pines City Park? The group's opinion needs to be identified to come to a general consensus.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: **Thursday, November 20, 2008, 7:00 p.m.**
Forum Hall (Westfield UTC)

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Abella-shon
City Staff Representative